(*c*) the number of bodies constructed at the P. W. D. Workshops; and

(*d*) the number of bodies constructed by contractors, and the amount paid to them?

MR. M. GOVINDA PILLAI: (*a*) 60 Chassis, each costing Bh. Rs. 5,000.

(*b*) Rs. 1,600 per bus.

(*c*) 25 bodies for buses and 1 for lorry.

(*d*) 34 bodies were constructed by contractors. Rs. 45,000 has been paid and the balance of Rs. 9,400 remains to be paid pending final settlement of accounts.

MR. A. J. JOHN: May I know from Government whether the model of the bus was the 1936 one?

MR. M. GOVINDA PILLAI: I believe the model was the 1936 model.

MR. A. J. JOHN: May I know the name of the contractor who constructed the body of the buses?

MR. M. GOVINDA PILLAI: The body of the buses was constructed partly in the P. W. D. Workshops and partly by Byramshaw & Co., Madras.

MR. A. J. JOHN: Was there any local contractor who offered to build the body?

MR. M. GOVINDA PILLAI: There was an application from a local contractor but on investigation it was found that he had neither the necessary equipment nor the financial competence for the purpose of executing the work.

MR. K. T. THOMAS (*Tiruvella*): May I know who conducted the investigation?

MR. M. GOVINDA PILLAI: The Transport Superintendent.

Cost of bus shed at Thampanur.

14. ✻**MR. A. J. JOHN**: Will the Government be pleased to state the total cost of the bus shed constructed at Thampanur?

MR. M. GOVINDA PILLAI: The total cost of the bus shed constructed at Thampanur is Rs. 1,15,985.

Appointment of persons related to officers in Government service.

15. ✻**MR. K. T. THOMAS**: Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether there is a Government Circular prohibiting officers from appointing their relations in their own offices; and

(*b*) whether they are aware that a relation of the Conservator of Forests has been in the Office of the Conservator for over five years?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN: (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) No.

The Travancore State Congress.

16. ✻**MR. A. THANU PILLAI** (*Trivandrum Town*): Will the Government be pleased to state whether a circular has been issued by the Government to the Heads of Departments to the effect that the members and supporters of the Travancore State Congress should not be entertained in the Public Service?

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MR. C. O. MADHAVAN: There was no circular issued in the terms set out in the question. A circular was however issued which in effect laid down that, other conditions being equal, those not engaged in disloyal and subversive activities and not connected with such persons should be given preference in the matter of appointments and nominations.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI: What was the occasion for the issue of the Circular?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN: Disloyal and subversive activities were brought to the notice of Government.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI: What are those movements please?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN: Movements like the State Congress.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI: What are the activities of the State Congress which the Government consider disloyal or subversive?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN: I am not prepared to discuss that question now.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI: May I take it that the Government have no reason which can be discussed or disclosed here which led them to conclude that the activities of the State Congress were disloyal and subversive?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN: From the information that the Government were able to obtain, Government were satisfied about the disloyal and subversive nature of such activities.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI: May I know what that information was?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN: I do not propose to give further details on that point.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI: May I take it that it was on reasons which cannot stand the scrutiny of this House that the Government came to the conclusion that the activities were disloyal and subversive?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN: No, I have already stated, Sir, that I do not propose to discuss the matter here.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI: May I know whether the Government consider the agitation for responsible government as disloyal or subversive?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN: I have stated more than once, Sir, that I do not want to give any further information on the point.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI: May I know from the Chief Secretary when he will be in a position to answer my question?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN: That relates to the future.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI: Will the Chief Secretary be pleased to give me the terms of the Circular?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN: The substance of the circular has been given in the answer.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI: That, I see.

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN: Government do not consider it necessary to go further.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI: May I know who decides whether certain activities are disloyal or subversive?

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MR. C. O. MADHAVAN: Government.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI: May I take it that the Government have furnished the appointing authorities with a list of what they consider disloyal and subversive activities?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN: Government did not consider it necessary.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI: Will the Chief Secretary be pleased to give me a few instances of persons whose activities the Government consider disloyal and subversive?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN: It is not considered expedient to give names here, Sir.

MR. M. SIVATHANU PILLAI (*Tovala* cum *Agastisvaram*): May I ask whether agitation for responsible Government under the aegis of His Highness the Maharaja on constitutional and peaceful lines is also considered subversive and disloyal?

PRESIDENT: There is a contradiction in terms in your question; the word 'constitutional' there precludes the idea of disloyalty.

MR. K. T. THOMAS: May I know the date of the Circular?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN: 21st June.

MR. K. T. THOMAS: Has it been communicated to the departmental heads?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN: The question relates to matters which are confidential,

MR. K. T. THOMAS: May I ask whether the Government cannot possibly disclose whether the circular has been sent to the departmental heads or not?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN: The interpellation asked whether the circular has been issued to the heads of departments, and it has been answered that a circular has been issued.

MR. K. T. THOMAS: May I therefore take it that the departmental heads still reserve to themselves some appointing authority?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAH: To a certain extent, they do.

MR. V. K. VELAYUDHAN: Have the Government issued any instructions to the heads of departments as to the factors which go to make certain activities disloyal and subversive?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN: Beyond the circular, no further instructions have been issued.

ADJOURNMENT MOTIONS.

PRESIDENT: I have received notices on eighteen adjournment motions, and shall deal with them one by one.

MR. K. R. NARAYANAN:

"I intend asking for leave to make a motion for the adjournment of the business of the Assembly for the purpose of discussing a definite matter of public importance, namely, the refusal of permission by the Prison authorities and by the Government to the relatives of Mr. A. Narayana Pillai to visit him in Jail."

In the first place I should like to ask the honourable member whether he has satisfied himself that there was such refusal?

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